

**Governor's Council on Disability
Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2006**

Council Members Present/Participating:

Karen Benson, Dan Card, Edward Duff, Michael Esser, Kathleen Fagin, Matthew Hughes, Mary Ellen Jenison, Blair Moran, Susan Orton, Dawn Renee Powell, Joe Sartorius

Council Members Not Present/Participating:

Joseph Colagiovanni, Mikael Fredholm, Pat Gallagher, Stephanie Logan, Todd Mayfield, Sarah Olson, Donna Pavlick, Dr. Hani Soudah, Molly Tallarico

Department Liaisons:

David DeWitt (MO-DOT), Walter Johannpeter (for Dave Mosby – OA), Scott Mantooth (for Jeanne Loyd – DESE/VR), Phyllis Launius (Office of State Courts Administrator), Robin Rust (for Linda Roebuck – DMH)

Staff: Robert Honan, Linda Baker, Donna Borgmeyer, Claudia Browner

Guests: Carol Thoenen, Department of Health and Senior Services
Jackie Coleman, Department of Mental Health

Real Time Captioner: Debbie Reithmeyer

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dan Card at 10:10 AM. Rob Honan took attendance and announced that we did not have a quorum. The meeting was started as an informal session. Once Rob Honan started with his Executive Director's report, two more Council members arrived and it was announced that we had a quorum. The Council meeting was then officially called to order. The council members, department liaisons and staff introduced themselves.

The agenda for the day and the minutes from the April 28, 2006 meeting were approved.

Report from Council Chair Dan Card:

Dan Card reported that he had attended a meeting of the St. Louis County Circuit Court ADA committee where he was informed of the excellent work done by Linda Baker (GCD staff person in St. Louis). He officially commended Linda for her professionalism. Prior to the Council meeting, he had asked Rob Honan to put a written commendation in Linda's personnel file, which was done.

Dan Card inquired about the update of the Governor's Council's website. Rob Honan informed him that the Website Committee has been working on the updates and that a more detailed report will be given during the committee reports section of the meeting.

Rob Honan summarized his report on the Council staff's activities since the last meeting:

Legislative Education Project (LEP)

A total of 130 people participated in the 2006 Legislative Education Project, forty of which were from the Missouri Council for the Blind. Due to the great interest in the project, the Executive Director wants to continue the program next year. Dan Card voiced his concern regarding the numbers of people participating. He would like to see bigger groups attending. Rob Honan explained it is more difficult to facilitate the weekly sessions for larger groups and stated that the participants get a greater benefit out of the program when the groups are smaller. Several Council members stated their support of the project, which will be conducted again during the 2007 Legislative Session.

Missouri Youth Leadership Forum (MYLF)

Rob Honan reported that 13 students are enrolled to participate in the 2006 Missouri Youth Leadership Forum to be held July 23-26 at the University of Missouri in Columbia. He also stated that Reuters news agency is attending the forum to produce a video of the event which will be used to recruit students for future years. The news agency is donating their time and equipment to produce this video.

Business Leadership Network (BLN)

Rob Honan is currently working with a group in Kansas City to organize and plan the Disability Mentoring Day in Kansas City on October 18th.

The BLN Spring Event in St. Louis was a great success with more than 60 people attending. The BLN Fall Event in St. Louis is planned for October 18th.

Springfield/Branson: Linda Baker and Donna Borgmeyer have met with a group of interested agencies to start up a Springfield/Branson Chapter of the BLN. Lori Pace of the Association for Retarded Citizens and Jana Estergard from Missouri State University in Springfield are the key contacts for this new chapter.

Rob Honan stated there might be a possibility to expand the BLN in the Sikeston area.

Resource Directory for Missourians with Disabilities

Council staff has updated the resource directory and mailed a copy to each listed agency. The directory is also available on the GCD's website (www.gcd.oa.mo.gov). Rob Honan passed around a couple of copies of the directory. Dan Card made a motion to commend Claudia Browner and Donna Borgmeyer for their work on that project. Mike Esser seconded. By unanimous vote, it was decided to put a formal commendation in both of their personnel files.

Action item: Rob Honan will write commendations for Claudia Browner and Donna Borgmeyer.

Presentation by Carol Thoenen, Youth and Senior Disability Services, Department of Health and Senior Services

Carol Thoenen gave a presentation about the Retention of Direct Care Staff.

- Certified in-home training of 30-40 hours will be implemented
- Courses will be offered by colleges and technical schools
- Training certificates will be portable
- Training will qualify people to be either basic or advanced aides
- Training will raise quality of care and professionalism
- 3,000 to 4,000 people will be trained statewide

Presentation by Jackie Coleman, Department of Mental Health, College of Direct Support

Jackie Coleman gave a presentation about the College of Direct Support, a collaboration of agencies to provide quality online training and credentialing of direct support staff.

- Training license will be valid for 3 years
- Standardized training, credentialing and portable certification will raise the pay scale for direct support staff
- Will reduce staff turnover
- Training is recognized on a national level and will count for college credits
- Provider agencies pay \$1,200 license to give their employees access to the training
- Employees receive raise after completion of the training
- For more information, go to the Internet at www.collegeofdirectsupport.com

Following the presentations, Dan Card asked Vice Chairperson Kathleen Fagin to lead the remainder of the Council meeting. A short break was taken.

Committee Meetings

The Council members and department liaisons divided up into groups to conduct committee meetings. After the lunch break, the committees gave their reports to the Council.

Committee Reports

Legislative Committee (Donna Borgmeyer reporting)

The legislative committee discussed the legislative priority survey, which will be distributed via e-mail and posted on the website. The committee changed the order of the questions on the survey and included some additional questions. The survey will be sent out the first week in August with a return deadline of September 1. Donna Borgmeyer will compile the answers and complete a report for the next Council meeting.

Mike Esser reported that Senator Engler is working on legislation regarding technology and the hearing impaired. He asked if any Council members were interested in working with him. Both Rob Honan and Matthew Hughes stated they were interested. The contact person is Jarad Falk, who is on the senator's staff.

Action Item: Donna Borgmeyer will provide a report of the survey results at the next Council meeting in October.

Programs Committee (Mary Ellen Jenison and Linda Baker reporting)

The Special School District in St. Louis has awarded the Missouri Business Leadership Network with the Special Ambassador Award for their efforts relating to the employment of people with disabilities.

Linda Baker passed around pictures of the BLN Spring Event in St. Louis and stated that Joyce Bender, the keynote speaker, had given an excellent presentation, as did Jeffrey Zuckermann.

Linda Baker will give a 30-minute presentation about Employment of People with Disabilities at the October 20 Council meeting.

Mike Esser recommended inviting Dan Mehan from the Chamber of Commerce in Jefferson City to give a presentation at the October meeting.

Mary Ellen Jenison asked the Council members to make a recommendation regarding the "Alliance for Full Participation" issue brought before the Council at the last meeting. It was decided that the information would be resent to the Council members for comment with a response deadline of one week.

Mary Ellen Jenison then reiterated the process for handling requests for support from the Governor's Council on Disability. She has changed the document into a checklist format and will send it to the Council members for review.

The Programs Committee will hold a conference call on August 29th at 10 AM.

Action items: Linda Baker will present at the October 20 meeting.

Rob Honan will invite Dan Mehan to speak at the October 20 meeting.

Rob Honan will resend the Alliance for Full Participation information to the Council members for comment/feedback.

Mary Ellen Jenison will send Checklist for Handling Requests for Support from the GCD to the Council members for review/comment.

Claudia Browner will set up the conference call for August 29th.

Website Committee (Rob Honan reporting)

Todd Mayfield, Rob Honan, and Diane Wideman from OA/IT Support have been working on redesigning the GCD's website to make it more interactive and accessible. A couple of new designs were reviewed at the meeting and changes were discussed. Once IT staff has made the changes, Rob will send out a link to the draft site for review and comment by the Council members.

Action item: Rob Honan will continue to work with IT staff and, when completed, will e-mail the link to redesigned draft website to the Council members.

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Strategic Planning Committee (Kathleen Fagin reporting)

The Strategic Planning Committee is going to hold a conference call on Wednesday, September 13, at 9:30 AM to work on the implementation of the strategic plan. Dan Card requested that real-time captioning be arranged for the conference calls.

Action item: Claudia Browner will set up conference call and real-time captioning for September 13.

Old Business

The action item: “Joe Colagiovanni will draft request for opinion from Attorney General’s office” from the April 28 meeting has not been completed. The request for opinion relates to the limit and nature of the Council’s authority to develop positions with respect to public policy matters, including legislation. Rob Honan will follow up with Joe Colagiovanni before the next meeting.

Action item: Rob Honan will contact Joe Colagiovanni to inquire about the status of the draft request for opinion from the AG’s office.

New Business

Dan Card asked the Council members to consider moving the start time of the Council meetings to 9:30 AM. The Council members discussed and voted on the issue, with six Council members voting yes (Sue Orton, Kathleen Fagin, Mary Ellen Jenison, Blair Moran, Mike Esser, and Joe Sartorius) and three Council members voting no (Edward Duff, Matthew Hughes, Renee Powell). Dan Card abstained from the vote. By majority, the start time for the October 20 meeting was changed to 9:30 AM. Kathleen Fagin stated that we should see how this works for everyone and that the issue should be put on the agenda for that meeting under old business.

Action item: Put Council meeting start time on October agenda under old business.

Public Comment

Robin Rust (DMH) reported about the Missouri Mental Health Task Force that was formed at the direction of Governor Matt Blunt to oversee a cross-agency effort to address incidents of abuse and neglect and client deaths at Department of Mental Health facilities and community-based agencies. Public hearings will be held August 1. For more information, please go to the updated website at <http://www.dmh.mo.gov/mmhtaskforce/index.htm>.

Dan Card thanked the state liaisons for regularly attending the Council meetings and recommended that the agenda for future Council meetings be revised to include “Liaison Information” after the Chair and Executive Director reports.

Linda Baker invited the Council members to attend the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum in Columbia.

Donna Borgmeyer announced that July 1st, 2006 marked her 30-year anniversary of employment with the Governor's Council. By unanimous vote, the Council decided to put a written congratulation and commendation for loyalty and professionalism in Donna's personnel file.

Action item: Revise agenda to include "Department Liaison Information" following the Chair and Executive Reports.
Rob Honan will write a commendation for Donna Borgmeyer for her 30 year employment with the Council.

By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 PM.
The next Council meeting will be held Friday, October 20, 2006 at 9:30 AM at the Governor's Office Building in Jefferson City, Room 470.

Summary of Action Items:	Person Responsible:
Write commendations for Claudia Browner and Donna Borgmeyer	Rob Honan
Provide summary report of the Legislative Priorities Survey at the October Council meeting	Donna Borgmeyer
Prepare presentation on Employment of People with Disabilities for October Council meeting	Linda Baker
Invite Dan Mehan, Chamber of Commerce, to next Council mtg.	Rob Honan
Resend Alliance for Full Participation information for comment	Rob Honan
Send Checklist for Handling Requests for Support from the GCD	Mary Ellen Jenison
Set up conference call and real-time captioning for Programs Committee Meeting August 29	Claudia Browner
Work with IT staff to redesign GCD website and e-mail link to new draft site	Rob Honan
Set up conference call and real-time captioning for Strategic Planning Committee meeting September 13	Claudia Browner
Follow up with Joe Colagiovanni regarding status of the draft request for opinion from the AG's office	Rob Honan
Put Council meeting start time on October agenda under old business	Rob Honan/Claudia Browner
Revise agenda to include "Department Liaison Information"	Rob Honan/Claudia Browner
Write commendation for Donna Borgmeyer's 30-year anniversary of employment with the GCD	Rob Honan
Send directions to GOB for October 20 meeting	Claudia Browner